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DEPARTMENT; I.R.D

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Assignment

Read the chapter on Rawls (Full Name is; John Rawls) in the Political Thinkers, edited by David Boucher and Paul Kelly. Write short explanatory notes on;

John Rawl’s First Principle

Rawl’s first principle confirms widespread convictions about the importance of equal basic rights and liberties. Two further features make this principle distinctive. First is its priority; the basic rights and liberties must not be traded off against other social goods.

THE SECOND PRINCIPLE; DISTRIBUTIVE ECONOMIC JUSTICE

These frameworks are the result of human political processes and they constantly change both across societies and within societies over time. The structure of these framework is important because the distributions of benefits and burdens resulting from them fundamentally affect people’s lives. Principles of distributive justice are therefore best thought of as providing moral guidance for political processes and structures that affect the distribution of benefits and burdens in societies, and any principles which do offer this kind of moral guidance on distribution, regardless of the terminology they employ, should be considered principles of distributive justice.

THE ORIGINAL POSITION

The original position is a central feature of John Rawls’s social contract account of justice, ‘justice as fairness,’ set forth in A Theory of Justice. The original position is designated to be a fair and impartial point of view that is to be adopted in our reasoning about fundamental principles of justice.

SUMMARIZE JOHN RAWLS IDEA OF JUSTICE

Rawls holds that justice as fairness is the most egalitarian, and also the most plausible, interpretation of these fundamental concepts of liberalism. He also argues that justice as fairness provides a superior understanding of justice to that of the dominant tradition in modern political thought; utilitarianism. Rawls theory of justice revolves around the adaptation of two fundamental principles of justice which would, in turn, guarantee a just and morally acceptable society. The first principle guarantees the right of each person to have the most extensive basic liberty compatible with the liberty of others. The second principle states that social and economic positions are to be a) to everyone’s advantage and b)open to all.